



John Iani, New EPA Region 10 Administrator, Visits The Basin

EPA Contacts

Coeur d'Alene Basin Team Leader

Sheila Eckman, 206-553-0455

Feasibility Study Human Health Alternatives

Angela Chung, 206-553-6511

Feasibility Study Ecological Health Alternatives

Mary Jane Nearman, 206-553-6642

Anne Dailey, 206-553-2110

Removals

Bill Longston, 206-553-1679

Carl Kitz, 206-553-1671

Community Outreach

Dick Martindale, 208-664-4588

Marianne Deppman, 206-553-1237

EPA Website

<http://yosemite.epa.gov/R10/CLEANUP.NSF/sites/cda>

Contact Marianne Deppman at 206-553-1237 with any comments or suggestions.

News Briefs Submissions

Contact Pamela Moore at 206-438-2236 with any comments, suggestions or submissions.

News Briefs Issues Available Through Email

News Briefs issues can be sent as a pdf or Microsoft Word file to your email address. Please send requests to pamela_moore@urscorp.com

Documents / Information Recently Added To The Information Repositories

There have been no new additions to the Information Repositories in the past month.

Message from John Iani, EPA Region 10 Administrator

Dear Friends:

I want to thank everyone in the Basin who took time out to meet with me during my visit in early December. You were very helpful in making your feelings about the complex cleanup situation clearer for me. I heard your serious concerns about EPA's role and pledge to do everything I can to improve EPA's relationships with people in the Basin. I want to ensure that we can work together to move forward with a sensible cleanup plan.

During my meetings I also heard:

- Your concerns about the stigma associated with Superfund sites.
- Your concerns about how long cleanup will take and the need for certainty, so that the Basin communities can prosper.
- Your concerns about getting cleanup done in a common sense way.

As we approach the Record of Decision, we will continue to seek your thoughts and feelings about how we can make the project work better for everyone. We understand that you want a sense of certainty about exactly where, when and why cleanup actions are proposed. In response, I'm committed to giving you as clear a picture as we can of an incredibly complex cleanup.

While we may not always agree, I'm convinced that by truly listening to all views and maintaining a respectful dialogue as we move forward, we will accomplish our goals of protecting the health of this and future generations and ensuring that the Coeur d'Alene Basin remains a showpiece of Idaho.

Very Truly Yours,

John Iani,
U.S. EPA Regional Administrator

Further Comment On The Proposed Plan Is Encouraged

- The public comment period for the Proposed Plan has been extended to:

February 26, 2002

Public participation is a key part of the Proposed Plan process and input is strongly encouraged. Please convey your comments to:

Sheila Eckman
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
1200 Sixth Avenue, M/S ECL-113
Seattle, WA 98101
E-mail: eckman.sheila@epa.gov.

- An EPA responsiveness summary will be included in the Record of Decision (ROD), to be released sometime in early 2002.

The ROD's release date depends on the amount of comments received by the EPA during the public comment period and what types of changes are made to the cleanup plan based on those comments.

- EPA is preparing a "Frequently Asked Questions" fact sheet that will help answer some of the questions and concerns voiced during informal question and answer sessions at the public meetings. This fact sheet will be mailed to our large Basin mailing list within the coming weeks.

Tips For Providing Public Comment

In submitting your public comment on the Proposed Plan, here are some tips to follow:

- Be as specific in your comments as possible.
- Tell us which elements of the proposal you support, which elements you disagree with and explain why you feel the way you do.
- Provide specific examples and suggestions for solutions or improvements.
- Include your name and address.

Thanks and Appreciation to the CAC RI/FS Task Force

On May 5, 1999 the Citizens' Advisory Committee Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study Task Force was formed to serve as a "sounding board" to the EPA and other agencies throughout the Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study (RI/FS) efforts conducted in the Coeur d'Alene Basin. This group held 16 meetings, sponsored many public workshops, and was instrumental in the formation of several community outreach tools including the monthly Coeur d'Alene Basin News Briefs, the Coeur d'Alene Basin web site, citizen participation in technical meetings, and "Executive Summaries" for major technical documents. The RI/FS phase of the project has culminated in the Proposed Plan which was released for formal public comment on October 29th. This fulfills the original intent of the CAC RI/FS Task Force.

The Environmental Protection Agency extends its thanks and appreciation to all the CAC RI/FS Task Force members for their dedication and extraordinary commitment of time. We sincerely hope that the information shared during the many meetings and workshops was as beneficial to the communities as it was to the agencies.

While this brings closure to the CAC RI/FS Task Force, future opportunities for community input will continue to be available through several existing citizen groups, including the Coeur d'Alene Basin Citizens' Advisory Committee and the Washington Citizens' Advisory Committee. In addition, the Idaho state legislation which established the Basin Environmental Improvement Project Commission also provides for local citizen input.

News Briefs Needs Your Input

This newsletter provides a place where all can find a brief and current status overview of events and information on the Coeur d'Alene Basin project. Government agencies and citizens' groups are encouraged to contribute to its value with timely input.

Make sure your **meeting or event** appears in the Upcoming Events section. Even if not attended by a particular reader, listing your meeting gives all a sense of your group's current project focus. State the group name, time and place of meeting, contact person and phone, and give a brief listing of the agenda with speakers' names and topics.

Keep us posted on **recent project activities** you are involved with. Include a brief factual account of the activity and remember that a simple overview of pending status can be important information, as well.

Report specific **test analysis results** you have been involved with, as well as information and resources discovered that might be of value to others.

A "Call For Input" email arrives in your inbox each month, approximately two weeks prior to the issue's publication. Government agencies and citizens' groups should take a minute to review the past month's activities and upcoming events and formulate a brief response. Your input is of value to all involved on the Coeur d'Alene Basin project and of interest to the entire News Briefs audience.

Thank you for your continued contributions to the Coeur d'Alene Basin News Briefs.

Other Agency / Entity Contacts and Highlights

Bureau of Land Management

Contact: David Fortier, 208-769-5050

Coeur d'Alene Tribe

Contact: Phillip Cernera, 208-667-4119

Panhandle Health District

Contact: Jerry Cobb, 208-783-0707

Private Land Owners / Managers

Contact: Frank Frutchey, 208-682-2077

Silver Valley Natural Resource Trustees

Contact: Marti Calabretta, 208-752-6371

State of Idaho Department of Environmental Quality

Contact: Rob Hanson, 208-373-0290

Contact: Geoff Harvey, 208-769-1422

Contact: Luke Russell, 208-783-5781

Contact: Nick Zilka, 208-783-5781

State of Washington Department of Ecology

Contact: John Roland, 509-625-5182

United States Fish and Wildlife Service

Contact: Dan Audet, 509-893-8001

United States Forest Service

Contact: Jeff Johnson, 208-765-7442

United States Geological Survey

Contact: Paul Woods, 208-387-1353

Upcoming Events

Coeur d'Alene Basin Citizen Advisory Committee

January 9, 2002 – 7 to 9 p.m.

Rose Lake Historical Society Building – Rose Lake, ID

Agenda: Election of Chair and Vice Chair. Review of Coeur d'Alene River South Fork Sediment Sub-Basin Assessment and Total Maximum Daily Load. Continued review of the Coeur d'Alene Lake Management Plan. (The December meeting was cancelled due to snow and will take place at this time).

Contact: Geoff Harvey, 208-769-1422

Shoshone County Natural Resources Coalition

January 8, 2002 – 11:30 am to 1:30 p.m.

January 22, 2002 – 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Brooks Hotel - 500 Cedar Street, Wallace, ID

(Group meets second and fourth Tuesday of each month.)

Contact: Connie Fudge, 208-753-6022

Coeur d'Alene Basin Interagency Group

January 16, 2002 – 8:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.

Idaho Department of Fish & Game – Kathleen Ave., Coeur d'Alene

Agenda:

8:30 – Introductions / Roundtable

9:00 – “New Cost Effective Solutions for Stream Sediment Removals,” presented by Tom Loder, Northwest Rep., Streamside Systems, Inc.

9:30 – “Metal Concentrations in the Sediment Pore Water of Lake Coeur d'Alene,” presented by Leigh Winowiecki, Master's Candidate in Soil Science, University of Idaho.

10:00 – Update of the Coeur d'Alene Lake Management Plan presented by Philip Cernera, Restoration Coordinator, NRDA, Coeur d'Alene Tribe.

10:30 – “Concepts for Monitoring of Lake Coeur d'Alene,” presented by Paul Woods, Limnologist, USGS, Boise, Idaho.

11:15 – Adjourn

Contact: Jack Gunderman, 208-667-4119